REMOVAL OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, WESTMINSTER.—Towards the close of the last session of Parliament a report was ordered to be printed, made by the select committee to whom the petition of the rector, churchwardens, and vestrymen of St. Margaret's, Westminster, for aid towards repairing the church, was referred. The report is an interesting document, and contains a recommendation for the removal of St. Margaret's Church from its present site. The incongruity of the church (the committee declare) in its style of architecture and its proximity to Westminster Abbey, have been frequently noticed and lamented. They express their unanimous recommendation "that the church of St. Margaret's should be removed from its present site, and they have reason to think that a new churchyard or cemetery in some less populous situation might be purchased at a very moderate expense; and that it might be possible to obtain a portion of land not far distant from the present site, where the church could be rebuilt to a great measure from the present materials.—[Churches should not be pulled down without the graves: consideration, and for most cogent reasons.—ED.]

IMMENSE STONE.—The Peckfortoo Quarries have for some time been in full work, and we understand that the stone for all purposes is of the very best quality. Some little time ago an immense stone was raised in the quarry belonging to Mr. Tollemache; it was 51 feet long, 18 feet 6 inches wide, and 5 feet deep. It was cut up in blocks for the baronial castle now in course of erection by Mr. Tollemache, at Beeston. We are informed that the stone was fairly lifted out of its bed.—*Chester Chronicle.*

TYPHUS FEVER.—We have said that this pestilence has many favourite lurking places as well known to our learned physicians of the Fever Hospital as their own names. Where are they? In the aristocratic vicinity of Belgrave or Grosvenor Squares? Alas! no. Would to heaven the fever would follow the fashion and migrate westward, if only for a single season.—Imagine but one fashionable street or square in the predicament of a fever district in Whitechapel, with not a house, nor a single room in a single house without its fever patient. What a sensation it would produce! What learned consultations as to the cause, what paragraphs in the newspapers, what searching inquiries into the state of the drainage, what indignant denunciations of the Commissioners of Sewers, what abuse of the landlords! The patriots of both houses would lose no time in bringing the matter forward, and we should have a second edition of the *qui tam* actions. The witty divine who wished to immolate a member of the Episcopal bench to stop a railroad abuse, would be delighted with such a practical application of his principle. But, unfortunately for the cause of social improvement, the fever has vulgar tastes and loves obscure localities, such as Rosemary Lane, and other low parts of Bethnal Green and Whitechapel. "The streets, courts, alleys, and houses, in which fever first breaks out, and in which it becomes most prevalent and fatal, are invariably those in the immediate neighbourhood of uncovered sewers, stagnant ditches, and ponds, gutters always full of putrefying matter, nightmen's yards, and privies, the soil of which lies exposed, and is seldom or never removed. It is not possible for any language to convey an adequate conception of the poisonous condition in which large portions of both these districts always remain, winter and summer, in dry and rainy seasons, from the masses of putrefying matter which are allowed to accumulate." This description, though written some few years since, still remains true to the letter. Again: "In every district in which fever returns frequently, and prevails extensively, there is uniformly bad sewerage, a bad supply of water, a bad supply of scavengers, and a consequent accumulation of filth; and I have observed this to be so uniformly and generally the case, that I have been accustomed to express the fact in this way. If you trace down the fever districts on a map, and then compare that map with the map of the Commissioners of Sewers, you will find that, where ever the Commissioners of Sewers have not been, there fever is prevalent; and, on the contrary, wherever they have been, there fever is comparatively absent."—*Medical Times.*

ANCIENT RESERVOIRS. — The immense works which were made by the ancient kings of Egypt, for receiving the waters of the Nile when it overflowed, are well known. But there never was a more stupendous work of this kind than the reservoir of Saba, or Merab, in Arabia Felix. It was a vast lake formed by the collection of the waters of a torrent in a valley, where, at a narrow pass between the mountains, a very high mole or dam was built. The water of the lake so formed had near 20 fathoms depth; and there were three sluices at different heights by which the plains below might be watered. The city of Saba, or Merab, was situated immediately below the great dam: a great flood came and raised the lake above its usual height; the dam gave way in the middle of the night; the waters burst forth and overwhelmed the whole city, with the neighbouring towns and people. The remains of the eight tribes were forced to abandon their dwelling, and the beautiful valley became a morass and desert. This fatal accident happened before the time of Mahomet, who mentions it in the Koran. See also "Sale, Prelim. sect. 1, and Niehbuhr, Descript. d'Arabie, p. 240."—*From Lowth's Notes on Isaiah, ch. 1.*

HAWKSHEAD CHURCH.—This fine ancient edifice is about to be greatly beautified in the forthcoming spring. An altar-window is to be put in at the cost of nearly 100*l.*, and a new and powerful organ to be erected. A covering for the altar was lately received by the rev. vicar as a present from some ladies who visited the church last summer. It is a very splendid and costly affair, richly embroidered with gold.—*Westmoreland Gazette.*

Tenders.

TENDERS delivered for Re-pewing Leverington Church, Wisbeach.

	To be executed in Fir.			in Wainscot.		
Thomson	£215	0	0	£268	0	0
Bennett & Son	279	10	0	318	0	0
Ellis	275	0	0	360	0	0
Batersham	349	0	0	398	16	2
Richmond	355	0	0	456	0	0
Freeman	314	0	0	474	0	0

Another tender was received too late, the amount of which did not transpire.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

For the erection of the Railway Works between Leeds and Bradford, including fencing, earthwork, masonry, roads, and permanent way.—William Clarke, Secretary, Hunslet Lane Station, Leeds. January 27.

For the erection of a New Pauper Lunatic Asylum at Clifton, near York.—Messrs. Scott and Moffatt, Architects, 20, Spring Gardens, London; or Mr. J. Hopton, Law Chambers, York. January 28.

For the execution of Works on the Chester and Holyhead Railway.—1st. A distance of eight miles, or thereabouts. 2nd. A distance of twenty-two miles, or thereabouts. 3rd. A Tunnel through the promontory of Penmaen Bach, near Conway.—George King, Secretary, 62, Mosgate-street. January 29.

For the Execution of Works on that part of the Blackburn and Preston Railway extending from Blackburn to Plessington, being about 3½ miles in length.—Peter Sinclair, Secretary, Blackburn. January 29.

For the Compo and Plasterers' Works, both external and internal, of four houses now erecting in Brunton-terrace, Yarmouth.—Mr. Pawsey, Victoria Hotel, Yarmouth. January 29.

For the supply of Wrought Iron Rails, and the requisite Number of Chairs, for about 15 miles of the Southport and Lowton Junction Railway. The weight of rails to be from 60lb. to 70lb. per lineal yard, and 15 feet lengths, equal to from 1,500 to 1,800 tons of wrought iron; and about one-third of that quantity of cast iron.—Worthington and Pott, Solicitors, Wigan. January 31.

For erecting the Works of the Third Division of the Main Line of the Great Southern and Western Railway, being 11 miles, 6 furlongs, and 75 yards in length. Also for the first division of the Carlow branch, being 10 miles, 7 furlongs, and 160 yards; comprising excavation, embankments, culverts, &c.—William Taylor, Secretary, 6, College-green, Dublin. February 1.

For the erecting of Artizans' Houses in Foundation-street, Ipswich.—Mr. J. A. Clark, Foundation-street, Ipswich; or Mr. Nuttall, Solicitor, Ipswich. February 1.

For the formation of a Main Sewer (single line) of the Ashton, Stalybridge, and Liverpool Junction Railway.—John Jellicorse, Secretary of the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company, Palatine Buildings, Hunt's Bank, Manchester. February 3.

For the works required in erecting certain Farm Buildings at Badley Hall, Essex, and for alterations and additions to the dwelling-house.—Mr. George Sergeant, 27, Queen-street, Colchester; or Mr. John Eagle, Badley Hall. February 3.

For the erection of a Bridge, called White Bridge, at Grasmere, near Ambleside, Westmoreland.—Mr. George Robinson, Bridge Surveyor, Kendal; or Mr. Daniel Donaldson, Ambleside. February 4.

For the construction of the several Stations and other Buildings on the York and Scarborough Railway.—Mr. Andrews, Architect, York; or Mr. George Baker, Secretary, Railway Office, York. February 5.

For the erection of a Steam Boat Pier at the Quay on the north-east side of Blackfriars' Bridge, also for building a Decked Lighter or Dumby.—Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall. February 6.

For one Pleasure Carriage, four Milk Trucks, and fifty Box Waggons, with drawing and buffer springs, for the Manchester and Birmingham Railway.—Mr. John Latham, Secretary, London-road, Manchester. February 6.

For erecting and completing the Lower Sluice and Sluice-Pit at the top of the Esn, Brink Cut, about 4 miles above Lynn.—Messrs. Walker and Burges, 23, Great George-street, Westminster; or Mr. George Game Day, Clerk to the Middle Level Drainage Commissioners, St. Ives. February 10.

For the erection of New Buildings in Pembroke College, Oxford.—Plans, &c., prepared by Mr. Heywood, Architect, may be seen at the Master's House. February 11.

For the erection of two Fever Wards in the workhouse at Slough.—C. P. Barrett, Clerk of the Union, Eton. February 11.

For a supply of Railway Fastenings for the Great Southern and Western Railway, Ireland.—Mr. William Taylor, Secretary, 3, College-green, Dublin. February 17.

For the supply of 11,000 feet of nine-inch cast-iron Pipes for a new line of Aqueduct to be laid in the Island of Malta.—Vm. Casolani, Collector of Land Revenue, Office of Land Revenue and Public Works, Valletta, Malta. March 31.

COMPETITIONS.

The Committee for Building a Chapel at Holloway are desirous to receive Designs for their intended building. The style to be Gothic. The Committee pledge themselves to select for their Architect the gentleman whose design they shall prefer.—George Brooks, Esq., 1, Lansdowne-place, Holloway. January 31.

Plans and estimates are required for a Workhouse, to contain about 1,180 persons. The whole to be done in a plain and substantial manner, without any expensive embellishments. The plans and Architects' estimates to be sent to Robert Mercer, the Clerk of the Clifton Union, Pennywell Road, Bristol, on or before the 17th of February next, and the Board of Guardians will adjudicate on the 28th. The architect producing the best plan in the estimation of the Board will be employed at a sum not exceeding 5 per cent. on the outlay, and a gratuity of 25 guineas will be given to the architect producing the second best plan in the opinion of the Board.

NOTE.

We shall be glad to receive information from Publishers of all New Books on the subjects whereof we treat.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"James Pulham," and "One of your Readers," received.

"An Architect and Subscriber's" letter about Chesney-piece in Keene's Cement, is too valuable an advertisement for insertion.

"S. R. K." objects, in a sensible letter, to our brief remarks on Mr. Sloan's statue of William IV. He may rest satisfied that we give no opinion without due consideration. We shall probably accede to his wish, and examine the work in about a fortnight hence, when it will be complete.

"Charles Newnham" is thanked for his good opinion. "The abandonment of railway travelling on 'Sir, the select few,' but the community at large, are now so fully understood, that no such obstacles as he would impose would be permitted."

"W. J. D." and "Mr. Gliddon."—Any irregularity in the return of communications which has occurred must be attributed to the death of the late editor. Inquiry shall be made.

"Sculptor."—Next week.

"Bernan's History and Art of Warming and Ventilating" received.